

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 ACDA-05 AF-06 EUR-12 /088 W

----- 077453

R 291040Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2520

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMAGAD

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 0231

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TC, IZ

SUBJ: UAE-IRAQI RELATIONS

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN SUWAIDI JANUARY 26 I ASKED HIM TO COMMENT ON IRAQI FONMIN'S RECENT TRIP THROUGH GULF AND ALSO ON-AGAIN, OFF-AGAIN DEAL BETWEEN UAE AND IRAQ TO SEND LATTER SOME OF ADDF'S HAWKER HUNTERS.

2. SUWAIDI SAID IRAQI FONMIN MISSION HAD BEEN CHIEFLY TO PRESS IDEA FOR GULF MILITARY COOPERATION. FOREWARNED THAT THIS WOULD BE HIS MISSION, UAEG HAD COORDINATED ITS POSITION WITH SAUDIS. THEY HAD BOTH AGREED THEY WANTED NONE OF IRAQI PROPOSAL. THEIR RESPONSE TO IRAQI FONMIN WHEN HE TURNED UP WAS THAT THEY DID NOT THINK TIME WAS OPPORTUNE FOR CLOSER MILITARY ASSOCIATION AMONG GULF STATES AND THAT BEFORE THIS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED GREATER PROGRESS WAS NEEDED IN NARROWING POLITICAL
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DIFFERENCES AMONG GULF STATES. SUWAIDI ASKED ME

RHETORICALLY QUOTE HOW CAN WE TALK ABOUT MILITARY
COOPERATION WITH A REGIME IN WHICH WE HAVE NO CONFIDENCE
UNQUOTE.

3. ON HWAKER HUNTER BUSINESS SUWAIDI SMILED AND SAID
IT WAS ALL RATHER EMBARRASSING. WHEN SHAIKH ZAYID HAD
VISITED IRAQ LAST SUMMER IRAQIS HAD ASKED HIM IF HE
COULD SELL THEM SOME HUNTERS FOR QUOTE TRAINING UNQUOTE.
ZAYID HAD READILY AGREED. EVER SINCE, FONMIN SUWAIDI
HAD BEEN RACKING HIS BRAIN FOR WAY TO BACK OUT OF DEAL
GRACEFULLY. IRAQIS KEPT AFTER UAEG, HOWEVER, AND FINALLY
FONMIN HAD BEEN FORCED SIMPLY TO TELL THEM, AT LAST
MINUTE BEFORE AIRCRAFT WAS DUE TO BE TRANSFERRED, THAT
UAEG HAD RECONSIDERED AND DID NOT WANT TO GO THROUGH WITH
DEAL. IRAQIS CD BEEN VERY UNHAPPY.

4. INCIDENTALLY, PAK AMBASSADOR TOLD ME THAT HE HAD
INFORMED UAEG HE WOULD NOT ALLOW PAKISTANI PILOTS TO
BE USED FOR TRANSFER.
STERNER

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